

AMENDMENTS

In the title:

Please change the title from "A CONNECTOR" to --A CONNECTOR FOR

A1 ELECTRICALLY COUPLING ONE OR MORE DEVICES IN A PROCESSOR-BASED SYSTEM--.

In the abstract:

Please revise the abstract to read as follows:

A2 The present invention provides a method and a connector for coupling first and second boards together substantially parallelly. The connector comprises one or more wafers capable of receiving and delivering at least one first voltage, a power module capable of receiving and delivering a second voltage to the second board, wherein the second voltage is larger than the first voltage, and a guide module for aligning the connector with the second board.

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 7, 13-17, and 23-25 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

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1. (Amended) A processor-based system, comprising:
a first board;
a second board; and
a connector coupled to the first board and adapted to parallelly couple the first board to the second board, comprising:

one or more wafers capable of receiving and delivering at least one first voltage;

a power module capable of receiving and delivering a second voltage to the second board, wherein the second voltage is larger than the first voltage; and

a guide module for aligning the connector with the second board.

3. (Amended) The processor-based system of claim 1, wherein the first voltage is about 2-4 volts and the second voltage is about 48 volts.

4. (Amended) The processor-based system of claim 1, wherein the one or more guide modules comprise one or more guide pins for aligning the connector with the second board.

5. (Amended) The processor-based system of claim 1, wherein the connector further comprises a first support member and a second support member with one or more contact modules disposed therein.

8. (Amended) The processor-based system of claim 1, wherein said connector is adapted to planarly couple the first board to the second board.

10. (Amended) An apparatus, comprising:
a first board;

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an expander board; and

a connector having a first end adapted to be coupled to the first board and a second end adapted to be coupled to the expander board, wherein the first board and the expander board are coupled substantially in parallel, the connector comprising:

one or more wafers capable of receiving and delivering at least one first voltage;

a power module capable of receiving and delivering a second voltage that is larger than the first voltage; and

a guide module for aligning the connector with the expander board.

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11. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the expander board couples the first board to a switch.

12. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the first voltage is about 2-4 volts and the second voltage is about 48 volts.

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18. (Amended) A method, comprising:
coupling a connector to a first printed circuit board, wherein the connector is capable of receiving and delivering at least one first voltage;
aligning the connector with a second printed circuit board using a guide module;

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coupling the second printed circuit board to the first printed circuit board using the connector, wherein the coupled first and second printed circuit boards are substantially parallel to each other; providing power at a second voltage from the first printed circuit board to the second printed circuit board using a power module in the connector, wherein the second voltage is larger than the first voltage.

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22. (Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the second printed circuit board includes a second connector having one or more receptacles, wherein coupling the second set of electrical connectors to the second printed circuit board comprises inserting the second set of electrical connectors in the one or more receptacles of the second connector.

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26. (New) A connector, comprising:
a top supporting member;
a bottom supporting member;
one or more wafers coupled to the top and bottom supporting members and capable of receiving and delivering at least one first voltage;
a power module capable of receiving and delivering a second voltage that is larger than the first voltage; and
a guide module for aligning the connector with the expander board.

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27. (New) The connector of claim 26, wherein the first voltage is about 2-4 volts.